

BMA urges 'no fault' compensation for victims of negligence

By Thomson Practice

The number of complaints from NHS hospital patients rose from 16,000 in 1982 to 22,000 last year. About 7,000 of those concerned clinical issues.

Most cases occur in orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, according to Dr Lindsey Matthews, who has done research for the BMA.

Although the level of damages paid was comparatively low in Britain, "many doctors still fear the stigma of being implicated in a negligence case", she said.

A charity, Action of Victims of Medical Accidents, set up five years ago, has dealt with claims from 2,000 patients, about a quarter of which have been referred to lawyers, and demand now far exceeds its present capacity.

Doctors' insurance premiums have risen by 16 per cent this year. The doctors are becoming more afraid of American-style litigation, which often results in courts awarding "astronomical" damages, Dr Matthews said.

Because of such fears, many were practising "defensive medicine" in which they would seek ways of treating patients other than by surgery, in case something went wrong; or would send the patient for expensive investigations, such as X-rays, to protect themselves against later complaints that they had not done all they might in reaching a diagnosis.

The BMA in 1983 set up a working party headed by Dr Burrows to investigate "no-fault compensation" systems in Sweden and New Zealand.

The systems entitle any patient who suffers injury due to a medical accident, to automatic compensation without proof of fault. Costs are met by the State through taxation.

The working party recommended such a system but the BMA initially felt that it would be too difficult to introduce in Britain.

However, the association's annual representative meeting this year voted for a further awarding "astronomical" damages, Dr Matthews said.

The BMA is now seeking meetings with the Law Society and other legal bodies to discuss it.



William "The Refrigerator" Perry, the 22-stone defensive tackle for the Chicago Bears American football team, in training at the Crystal Palace Sports Centre yesterday in preparation for Sunday's gridiron match against the Dallas Cowboys at Wembley Stadium. Perry, or "Fridge", as he prefers to be called, got his nickname when he was in college. "I got into a lift and just filled the thing up," he said. The 120-strong Bears party ate their way through 10 types of cereal, yoghurt, butter, milk, cheeses, sausages, ham and 300 eggs at breakfast yesterday, although Perry, aged 23, a keen restaurant goer, pronounced the eggs, "a little on the watery side". The Wembley encounter, called the American Bowl, will be televised live to the United States, with the Cowboys out to avenge a 44-0 defeat at the hands of the Bears last season. Photograph: Suresh Karadia

Mortgage defaulters increase by half

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

Rising unemployment since 1979 and easier credit has led to a substantial increase in mortgage arrears and repossessions by building societies, according to the Building Societies Association's Fact Book 1986, published today.

In 1985 the number of repossessions went up by more than half compared with the previous year, from 10,870 to 16,770. The scale of the increase is shown by the fact that in 1979 the number of repossessions was 2,550, rising to 7,320 in 1983. During 1985 repossessions increased from 7,380 in the first half of the year to 9,390 in the second half.

Commenting on the figures, the association says the main factor affecting the growth of arrears and repossessions since 1979 has been the sharp increase in unemployment and the consequent reduction in incomes.

Building societies and professional bodies in the housing field have been increasingly concerned in recent months about the relaxation of the lending guidelines in the present competitive climate, which has led to loans of up to four times the salary compared with the more normal 2.5 or three times.

The figures are based on the returns from the 17 largest societies, which account for 84.4 per cent of all outstanding mortgages at the end of 1985, and which have been grossed up to represent the whole industry.

There were two fatal accidents at barrier-less crossings in the two months preceding the Lockington crash. They have frequently been the subject of local opposition.

Yesterday's figures showed for the first time the future extent of open crossings. At least 106 of the barrier-less type are planned. Under it, 462 manned crossings will become automatic operations.

Ninety-seven will be in Eastern Region, eight in Scotland and one in Wales, at Pantyffnon, near Llanelli. The London Midland and Southern regions, which respectively have 11 and 8 crossings scheduled for automatic operation, have not decided which, if any, will be open crossings.

The inquest on the nine Lockington train crash victims was opened at Hull yesterday and adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Det Sergeant David Taylor told Mr Trevor Green, the Humberside Coroner, that he was satisfied that all the victims had been properly identified.

Seven survivors are in hospital.

£30m 'needed for publicity on Aids'

By Our Science Correspondent

The Government should be spending many millions of pounds more on warnings about Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) to prevent rapid spread of the disease throughout Britain, the College of Health said yesterday.

Lord Young of Darlington, chairman of the college, said that £30 million a year was needed for a publicity campaign, with at least as much again to educate National Health Service workers about the risks of catching the disease, and to demolish misconceptions about it.

The Government is at present spending £2 million a year on an Aids publicity campaign, but Lord Young said: "It is not hard-hitting, explicit or frank enough and it needs to be extended to television as well as newspapers.

"The Government has done too little, too late and is not in line with public opinion."

Action was needed in every health district of the country. "The disease is spreading out of London and into the provinces quite rapidly. If we don't act soon, the prospects are going to be very grim."

Lord Young, originator of the Open University and the Consumers' Association, was launching a document outlining the college's case for increases in government spending. The college is an independent body which provides health information and encourages better public use of the National Health Service.

The Government's chief medical officer, Sir Donald Acheson, said last week that the publicity campaign was having "encouraging" results, according to an interim study. By the end of May there were 362 cases of Aids in Britain, of whom just over half had died. About 20,000 others are believed to be infected with the Aids virus.

Hypnotist blamed for legal fight

A bicycle retailer was persuaded into a hopeless legal battle with Raleigh, the cycle makers, after being injected with "Jaffe juice", the General Medical Council was told yesterday.

Mr George Waterson, aged 49, claimed that a letter started the collapse of L. H. Brooks, his successful retail business.

He told the medical disciplinary committee that the letter was written by Mr Steven Ledger, an accountant, whom he employed on the recommendation of Dr Joseph Jaffe, a hypnotist. It was typed by Dr Jaffe's secretary.

Mr Waterson, of Arthor Road, Hale, Cheshire, said that he signed his name after Dr Jaffe had injected him on the morning of March 11, 1982 as part of the five-year treatment which cost up to £60,000 in fees.

He said: "The letter required my signature and provoked the collapse of my business. Prior to Ledger's appointment I would never have sent such a provocative letter."

But Mr Waterson, when cross-examined by Mr Anthony Arledge, QC, counsel for Dr Jaffe, would not say that he thought Dr Jaffe had "interfered" in his business.

He said: "I can only point out that major decisions were made in 1981 and 1982 while my judgement was impaired.

"I am left with the doubt as to whether my decision-making was my own or whether it was affected either by drugs or by Dr Jaffe's suggestions."

Dr Jaffe, of Sheepfoot Lane, Prestwick, Manchester, appears before the General Medical Council disciplinary committee accused of brainwashing his patient and leaving him addicted to an unknown drug.

Among other charges, he is alleged to have interfered in Mr Waterson's domestic and business affairs.

The case continues.

Office sunbathers run high skin cancer risk

Office workers who occasionally sunbathe could be running the risk of contracting a skin cancer, according to a survey released yesterday. The nationwide report, from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS), shows that malignant melanoma is high among clerical workers.

It is thought to be related to exposure to sunlight, especially sunbathing by those who normally work indoors. More than 170 causes of death among people in 550 occupations are analysed in the nationwide survey of occupational mortality conducted in 1979-80 and 1982-83.

It says there is a possible link between cervical cancer in women and the jobs of their husbands. Women particularly at risk in the 40-59 age group are the wives of welders, scaffolders, bus, coach and lorry drivers, servicemen and ships crews.

"Strimmer rash" is the term doctors are using to describe a new form of dermatitis caused by using power tools which reduce weeds to shreds within minutes. It is reaching "epidemic proportions", according to Dr Chris Lovell, a skin specialist at the Royal United Hospital, Bath. Those at greatest risk are gardeners wearing shorts who tackle undergrowth on a sunny day.

The rash is caused by plant substances called psoralens, which damage the skin when exposed to the ultraviolet rays of sunlight. The vigorous action of strimmers creates an aerosol of plant chemicals which may be absorbed on to the skin of scantily clad gardeners, Dr Lovell said.

Clerk fails in sex bias claim

A council clerk who said she was asked to pose in football kit because she "had the biggest bust in the department" lost her claim for constructive dismissal yesterday.

Miss Alison Penny, aged 27, was told at the industrial tribunal in Reading, Berkshire, that the incident she described could amount to sexual harassment and discrimination, but in order to make such a claim she should have complained within three months.

Miss Penny, of Slough, who worked in the recreation department at Reading Borough Council, had claimed that Mr Eric Gillespie, the open spaces officer, had made the remark when asking her to promote a football tournament. Mr Gillespie denied saying it.

He said: "I think Miss Penny had a hang-up about wearing T-shirts because of a previous experience when she was asked to wear one to advertise pork sausages."

After the hearing Miss Penny, now a shipping controller, said: "I have been vindicated in bringing this case and I hope that women who find themselves in a similar position would do the same."

Office harassment, page 9

Boy George fined over drug

Boy George was fined £250 yesterday after admitting possessing an unspecified amount of heroin.

The pop singer, aged 25, who confessed to having had a £200 a week habit, later said: "My message to kids is to give the drugs up."

Boy George was greeted by hundreds of fans when he arrived at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, west London, for the 20-minute hearing.

He was arrested on July 12 after a police raid on an address in Abercorn Close, Maida Vale, north London.

The court was told that the singer, charged in his real name of George O'Dowd, had confessed to taking heroin when questioned by police.

Fining him, Mr Geoffrey Noel, the magistrate, said: "I think it is right to say that you faced up to this charge manfully."

Mr Noel, who gave the singer seven days to pay, said he was treating him as he would any other defendant.

After the hearing, Boy George said: "I am very pleased it is all over, I think the magistrate was very fair."

The singer, who voluntarily submitted to treatment at a drugs clinic, said that he was definitely off drugs now.

Mr Ted Garrett, Labour MP for Walsend, said: "This decision makes a mockery of police efforts to eliminate drugs."

Mr Peter Bruivels, Conservative MP for Leicester East, described the fine as "laughable".



Boy George with his mother after yesterday's court hearing in London (Photograph: Graham Wood).

Riders warned

Motor cyclists were warned yesterday not to ride without gloves. Mr Peter Richardson, Lincoln's road safety officer, said many riders appeared gloveless in warm weather and said that gloves must be worn to protect the hands in case of accidents.



THE NEW £2 COIN Available from Post Offices now!

To celebrate the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, the Royal Mint is issuing a special commemorative £2 coin.

Never before has the United Kingdom issued a coin to honour a sporting event. It is also the first time the UK has struck a £2 coin in nickel-brass, (the same metal used for the £1 coin) and like the £1 coin it is legal tender. But, unlike the £1 coin, it is not intended for general circulation. It is purely a commemorative issue.

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You can obtain the standard coin, at face value, for £2.

There are also special collector versions available.

For further details, write direct to the Royal Mint, PO Box 500 Cardiff, CFI 1HA.

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Passengers robbed as gang take over bus

Police are hunting a strong gang of ten men who took over the top deck of a London bus and robbed passengers.

The gang got on the bus in Camberwell at 11.15 on Sunday. Some of the passengers were on the upper deck. Passengers and other passengers were robbed of money, credit cards and jewellery.

The attackers ran off in the bus stopped in Upper Road, Camberwell. Police have the gang had an impact on the bus with the intention of robbing a gang in the Classe five days before.

Pension fund paper money

The £319 million pension fund for Derbyshire Council employees has become the largest national Sunday paper, with a circulation of 1.2 million.

Manchester City Council yesterday could pay a further £270,000 to set up the newspaper, which is to be launched in a new edition in the autumn.

The council has paid £60,000 towards the fund.

Murder police arrest man

A 39-year-old man was arrested on Monday evening in connection with the murder of a woman in the city.

The murder inquiry is continuing.

Press warned on M15 book

Journalists which the book is intended to be published in the autumn.

Phones to aid village chat

A village in the Cotswolds has been given a telephone exchange to help its residents communicate.

Search finds composer

A search for a composer has been conducted in the Cotswolds.

Police raid on solicitors

A police raid on solicitors in London has resulted in the seizure of documents.

Firm cleared

A firm has been cleared of charges in a recent court case.

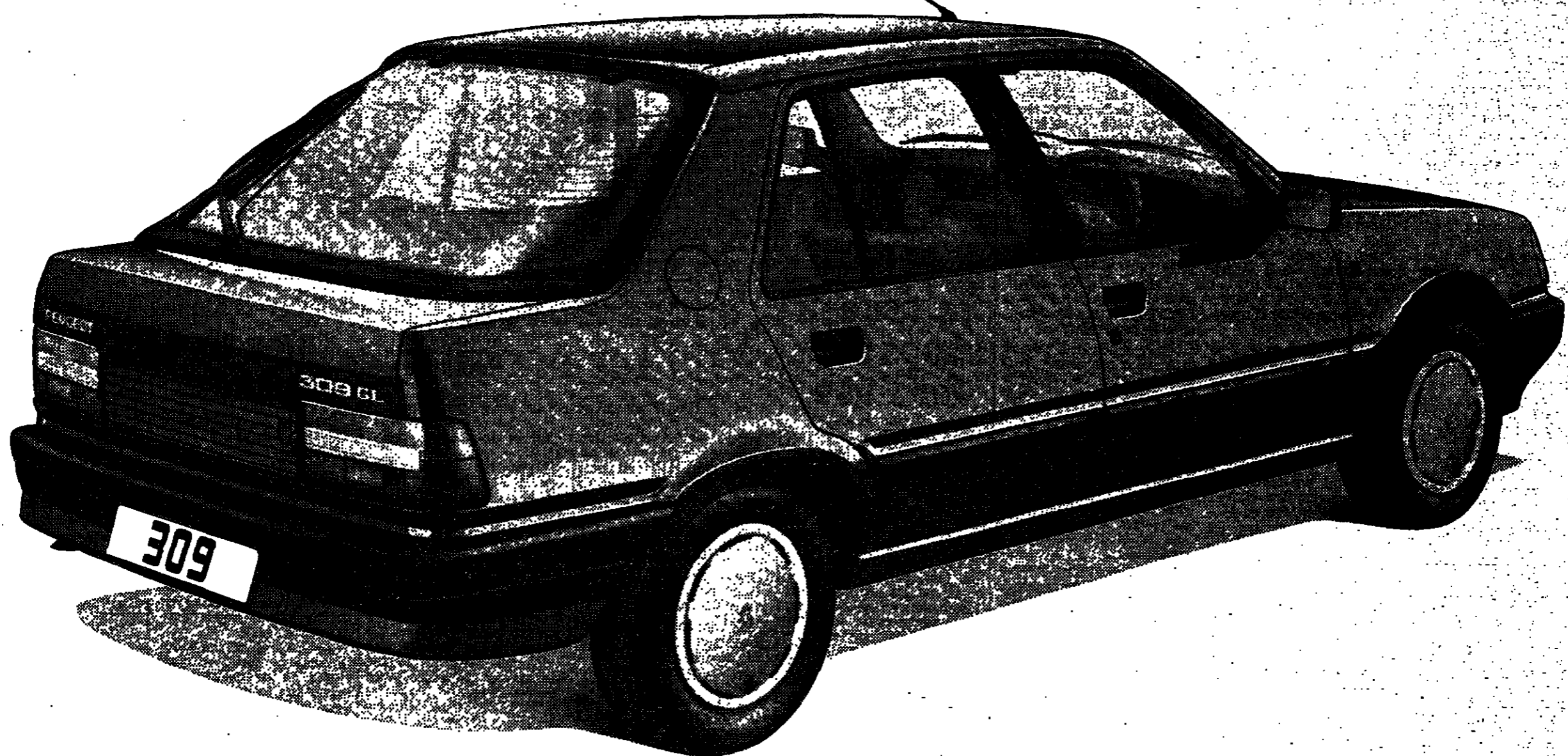
Escape over

An escape over a fence has been reported in a recent incident.

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APR	0%	9.4%	11.9%
LIST PRICE (Including on road costs)	6530.00	6530.00	6530.00
DEPOSIT (MIN 30%)	1958.96	1958.96	1958.96
REPAYMENT PERIOD	12 MTHS	24 MTHS	36 MTHS
FINANCE CHARGES	NIL	434.16	822.48
MONTHLY PAYMENTS	380.92	208.55	149.82
CUSTOMER SAVINGS Over credit provider's normal interest rates of 12% p.a. flat (23.8% apr)	548.52	662.88	822.96
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The new Chinese frontier

China is on course to become a major space power. After just 20 years, some Chinese rocketry is on a par with the west and ahead of the Russians. Report by Robert Grieves and Keith Hindley

China's space programme began about the year 1500, when a Ming dynasty scientist called Wan Hu tied 50 rockets to a comfortable chair and lit the fuses. The intrepid Wan died in the ensuing explosion but the story, along with tales of 13th century gunpowder kites and missiles, is taught to Chinese schoolchildren today as proof that China invented the rocket.

In recent years the Chinese have made rapid progress in modern missiles and suddenly the west has been forced to take them seriously. With the whole of the western satellite launch fleet - the US Space Shuttle and the Delta, Titan, Atlas and Ariane rockets - grounded after serious failures, Mr Li Xu'e, the astronautics minister, has found business booming.

Engineers returning from recent visits to Chinese space installations have expressed surprise and even amazement at home-built rockets with advanced engines and sophisticated solid state electronics. Launch-pad and laboratory facilities are up to the same high standards. Chinese engineers have impressed everyone with their knowledge and command of detail.

A year ago, the Chinese Ministry of Astronautics felt confident enough to offer a satellite launching service to the world. Mr Li Xu'e pointed to a stable of tried and tested rockets and an enviable record of 18 launch successes and three failures, only one of them with their main booster rocket. China launched three satellites with one rocket in 1981 and raised communication satellites to geostationary orbit at 22,000 miles in 1984 and 1986.

China is now estimated to be spending about £2 billion a year on space research and development. Its space industry employs more than 12,000 people and they expect that figure to more than double in the next decade.

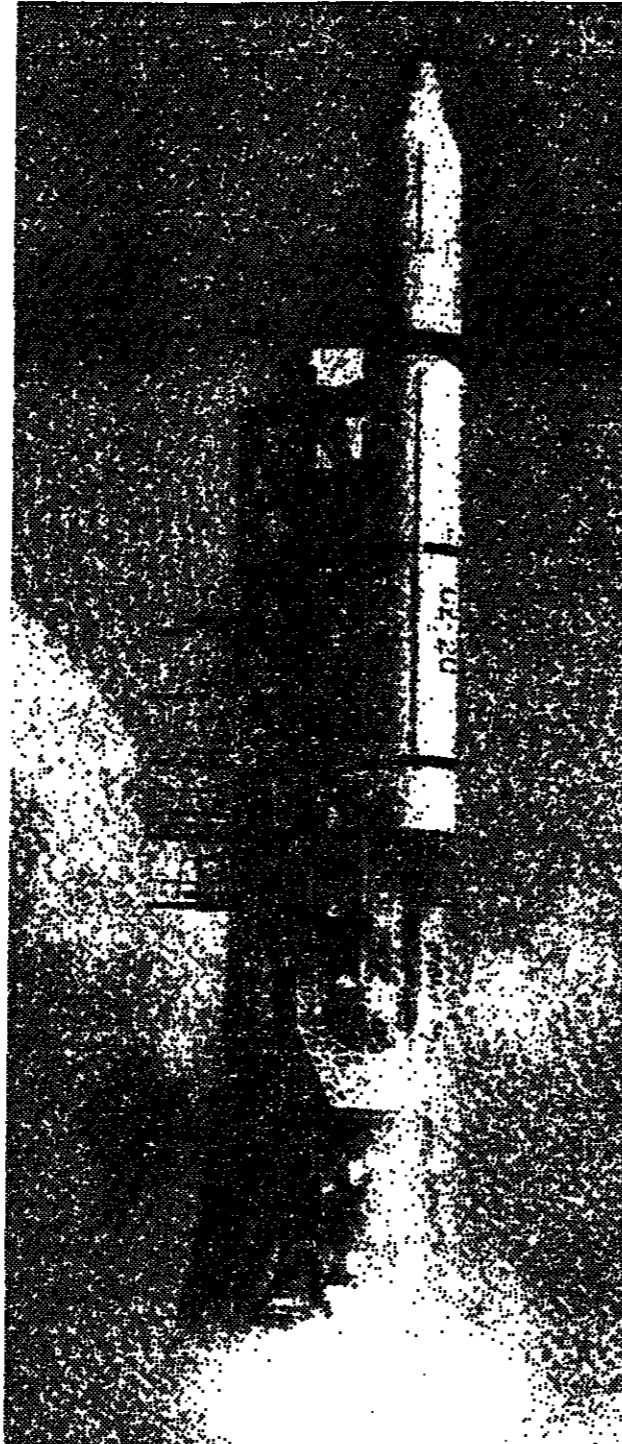
The Chinese are also spending heavily on space medicine and have an astronaut corps under training. They could launch their first astronaut in the next few years and they expect to fly a small re-useable

space shuttle by the mid-1990s.

Their space programme has made use of military rockets developed to deliver Chinese nuclear weapons. This programme was given the highest priority after Sino-Soviet relations deteriorated in the early 1960s.

Ten years before, many American-trained Chinese scientists had returned home to establish Chinese rocketry. They were joined, a decade later, by others from the Soviet Union as relations there cooled. "At that time, we were without friends," Sun Jiadong, vice-minister of astronautics, recalled recently. "We stole what secrets we could from the US and USSR and then developed the rest ourselves."

They learnt quickly. The first Chinese rocket lifted off in 1964 and by 1966 had flown 1,095 miles and had detonated a Hiroshima-sized atomic bomb. By 1970, a second and far more sophisticated rocket had flown 1,875 miles. These military rockets were deployed against the USSR. The first Chinese satellite was launched the same year using a larger military carrier rocket with a third stage added. This became Long March 1, China's first satellite booster.



Lift-off: China's 17th satellite launch (left) last October. Above: the latest satellite, launched in February 1986

CHINA'S ROCKETS AND RIVALS

Rocket	Height	Stages	Weight	Capacity	Record
LONG MARCH (China)	142ft high	2/3 stage	230 tonnes	can raise 1.8-2.5 tonnes to geostationary orbit	14 launches, 6 failures (7%)
ARIANE (Europe)	160ft high	3 stage	220 tonnes	can raise 2.4 tonnes to geostationary orbit	123 launches, 14 failures (11%) but none since 1978
PROTON (USSR)	163ft high	3/4 stage	280 tonnes	can raise 2.4 tonnes to geostationary orbit	123 launches, 14 failures (11%) but none since 1978

Theatre in the rough

A New Vic has sprung from urban weeds - in Stoke-on-Trent

Peter Cheeseman knew he had finally struck lucky, after searching the Potteries for 12 years to find a new site for the Victoria Theatre, when he scrambled over a wall into the garden of a Georgian house. "It was simply magical", he recalls. "It was overgrown with weeds which completely covered the old garden and tennis court but it was the most wonderful site we had been offered."

On August 9 the New Vic, as it is already known locally, will open its doors to the public, eight years after Cheeseman's first glimpse of the site. His team readily admit that the dream of a purpose-built theatre would never have been realized if it had not been for the drive and vision of Cheeseman, the director and a man with a national reputation but a conviction for community-based theatre.

And home for the Victoria would have remained the disused First World War cinema in Stoke, where 24 years ago impresario Stephen Joseph set up a home for his "theatre in the round".

The contrast between the two venues, which are less than a mile apart, could scarcely be more dramatic. The new site is probably the only theatre to employ a full-time conservationist. Derek Bolton has created an urban nature reserve around the theatre on the 2.8 acre site.

Cheeseman and his staff were so determined to maintain the beauty of their new surroundings that the whole building was moved one yard to the west rather than fill a line of trees. The new building has 600 seats in the round and good facilities.

The company has nurtured its share of star performers, notably Ben Kingsley and Robert Powell, as well as providing opportunities for a string of writers and directors. Alan Ayckbourn was once a member. Appropriately, the first production, which opens on August 13, will be a play by Arthur Hays Sulzberger.

Cheeseman has been offered lucrative and prestigious posts with national companies but has remained loyal to the Vic. The new theatre has cost just over £3 million, with most of the money coming from the Arts Council and local authority funding. The balance, about £750,000, is being raised through appeals.

"We will never be able to pay lavish wages but I truly believe that there will be a better theatre to work in the whole world", Cheeseman says.

Peter Davenport

large nuclear bomb to a target 5,000 miles away. This two-stage rocket could launch two tonnes into earth orbit and was called Long March 2.

Not satisfied with this, the Chinese developed a third stage using liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen fuels. These super-chilled fuels need sophisticated engines and careful handling, yet the Chinese appear to have mastered the problems with remarkable ease. They provide the most efficient chemical rocket and are used in NASA's space shuttle. The Soviet Union has yet to perfect their use. This three-stage rocket is Long March 3 and provides direct competition for Europe's Ariane, NASA's Delta and the USSR's Proton launchers.

At least 13 launch organiza-

tions in 10 countries are discussing launch arrangements with the China Great Wall Industry Corporation, the subsidiary of the Ministry of Astronautics that is handling commercial launching.

In March, Svenska Rymdaktiebolaget of Sweden signed a one-year launch reservation to orbit their Mailstar satellite in 1988. The launch, if it goes ahead, will share the rocket with a Chinese earth resources satellite and it will require a custom-built last stage which the Chinese are now designing.

In May, the Texas-based Teresat Corporation signed a letter of intent to launch the secondhand satellites Palapa B2 and Westar 6 by the end of 1987. These are the spacecraft rescued by the US Space Shuttle after their final booster failed and left them marooned in orbit in 1984. Finally, agreement is reported to be imminent for a contract with Western Union to launch a communications satellite.

At the moment, the Chinese and the Russians are the only organizations that can offer a launch date before the 1990s. For China the stakes are high. In addition to acquiring inter-

national technological prestige - an important goal for status-conscious China - satellite launchings could bring the People's Republic a thick wad of much needed foreign exchange. Extra launches can also spread the heavy cost of developing each rocket.

The worldwide demand for satellite launches up to the year 2000 will total about 300. The Chinese would like to corner a portion of that market.

Apart from early launch dates, a Chinese launch could also save western operators tidy sums in launch and insurance fees. The Chinese are quoting fees about 15 to 20 per cent below prices for Space Shuttle and Ariane launches.

In addition, they offer launch insurance with the People's Insurance Company at below international rates.

After very heavy losses in the last few years (10 satellites worth over £400 million have failed to reach orbit), western underwriters are now demanding heavy premiums for insuring European or American launches.

A final attraction is the new openness shown by the Chinese. They are happy to

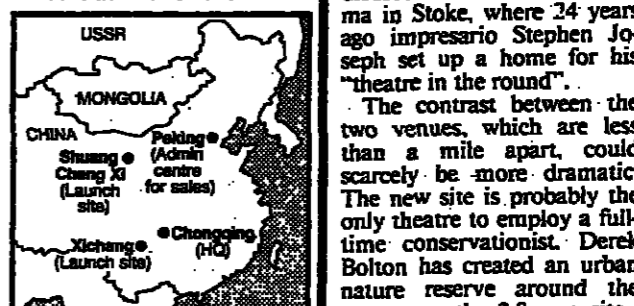
conduct the representative of a potential customer around their space facilities and Chinese engineers have recently discussed their rocket failures.

One Long March 2 booster exploded 20 seconds after lift-off, showering an inhabited area with debris, demolishing a public lavatory but causing no casualties. The problem was a defective gyroscope. Later, a Long March 3 rocket failed to reach geostationary orbit when its third stage did not develop its designed thrust. The problem was bubbles in the liquid hydrogen fuel. Senior Engineer Chen Shouchun recently admitted: "In the past we weren't very open and so the west didn't understand our capabilities. But early problems have been rectified and recent flights have been very successful."

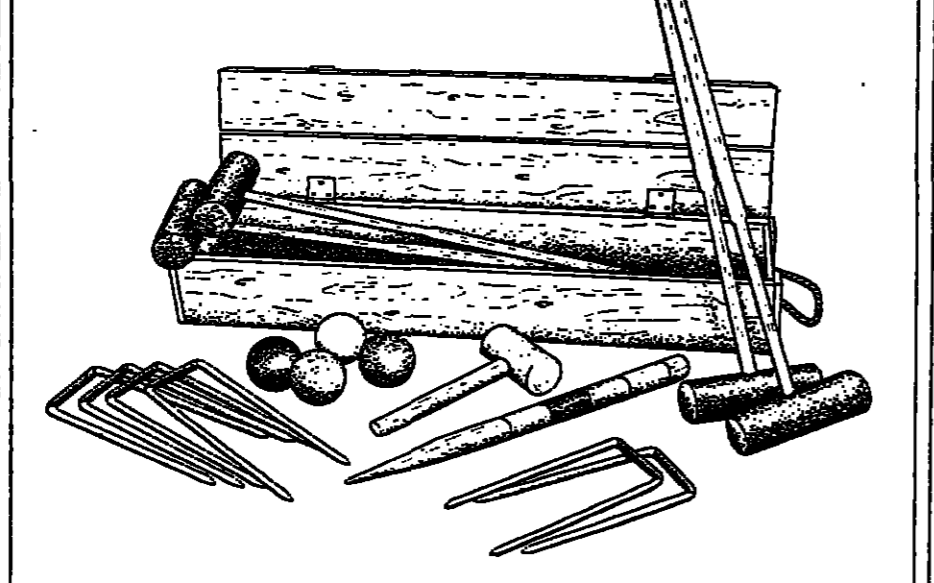
Peking aims to capitalize on that success with aggressive marketing. To exploit the golden opportunity presented by western launch problems, the Chinese are raising the number of Long March 3 launches from three to 12 each year.

To make the rocket even more competitive, they are to raise its launch payload from 1.4 tonnes to more than 2.5 tonnes up to geostationary orbit using strap-on solid rocket boosters.

The Chinese are offering a launch 30 months after a contract is signed - an offer that only the Russians can match at present. The business they are likely to mop up for launch dates in 1987-1989



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The refined game of croquet offers a perfect way of spending those lazy summer evenings, however, don't let its slow pace belie the skill involved.

Suitable for singles and pairs, the object of croquet is to be the first to get your balls through all the hoops in the correct order and direction, and then to hit them onto the peg. The principle of the game is to use the other balls to help you go through the hoops, in fact, by using the other balls a skillful player can go all the way round in a single turn.

Packed in an attractive white wood box with rope handles, this set is made in the U.K. and comprises: 4 mallets (approx 37" long and made from hardwood), 4 composition balls, 6 hoops, 1 winning peg, 1 smasher and a set of rules.

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IT IS PERHAPS best described as the acceptable face of Outward Bound courses, one of a growing number of schemes directed towards city-dwellers and lunch-bound young executives who suddenly feel like putting themselves through their paces a little.

One of McLuckie's long-term aims is to offer such courses, ranging from three days to a week or more, to

All the fun of the fear

When you arrive at Ormidale House they give you a glass of wine. Then they lock you in the cellar, let you out again at 2.30am with the fire alarm and push you out of the top-floor window on the end of a rope, with shotgun fire blasting up from the lawn below.

It is as though you had fallen asleep for a number of years and then woken up to find yourself a dissident in a police state, held captive in a police station, held captive in an ancestral Scottish home acquired by the Joint Air Force Night Ops and stick thunderflashes up the exhaust pipes of other chaps' Land-Rovers.

Actually there is more to this fellow McLuckie than meets the eye. With his wife and three grown-up children he has just started a project called Leisure Venture, here in the usually-drenched wilds of the Cowal Peninsula, the bit of land lodged in the armpit of the Scottish mainland and the Mull of Kintyre.

Alan Franks went on a new-style initiative course and found himself upwardly mobile



The first day, pranks apart, consists of a briefing, the second of a series of low-to-get-a-burned-across-using-only-two-logs games, and the third of a cross-country mission, using all the acquired skills, in search of the debris of a crashed rocket.

My own team, of which I was emphatically not the leader, comprised two women delinquents from a young teachers' school in Paisley, near Glasgow, and an unfairly fit and forty-ish manager of information systems at I.C.I. in Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

One of the teachers, Helen, suffered from chronic vertigo, and I shall not easily forget the expression on her downwardly-mobile face as she abseiled down a sheer cliff wall of 30 feet.

QUITE HOW such adventures would help, say, an accounts manager to manage his accounts better, or a public relations officer to improve his public relations I have no idea, but to judge from what I saw, the self-esteem of the fearful and the fatter is certainly improved by three days of kind but concerted de-wimpering.

For this I call as my witness Helen's colleague, Morgan, a wee glean of such tiny propositions that they lodge the sense of weight to abseil: "I'm no speakin' out o' murr, Helen, but if ye can mind a class fe' o' hooligans, ye can sure as hell get yer **** doon tha' cliff." And she was right.

The grand thing about courses like McLuckie's is that they lodge the sense of hardiness - even foolhardiness - without even incurring the remotest risk. I know that's not quite the thing to tell your awed and urban friends as you march with ever so slightly stiff limbs from the Easton sleeper, but, between you and me, it's the truth.

Tomorrow

On the Books page, Peter Ackroyd reviews *Stalin and the Shaping of the Soviet Union*

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1015

ACROSS

- Jet (6)
- Furniture wheel (6)
- Prevalent (4)
- Food of gods (8)
- Blameworthy (8)
- Era (3)
- Water on brain (13)
- Samurai (3)
- Soak (8)
- Forced back (8)
- Jet (4)
- Wince (6)
- Greece/Cyprus union (6)

DOWN

- Certain (4)
- Groundless (9)
- Jewelled headdress (3)
- Inner clique (5)
- Sluggish (4)
- Ogling (5)
- Go away! (4)
- Residue (5)
- Muslim god (5)
- 21 Excessive (5)
- 22 Not fit (4)
- 23 Gutter journals (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1014

ACROSS: 1 Sorrow 5 Comb 8 Opium 9 Lewdown 11 Nightcap 13 Caves 23 Desk 24 Doodah

DOWN: 2 Owing 3 Run 4 Well-appointed 5 Cute 6 Moorhen 7 RSPCA 8 Reek 22 Coe

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Sexual power games in the office

Some 150,000 civil servants are to receive a booklet from their union warning them not to sexually harass their co-workers. But this latest attempt will do nothing to curb the menace, says Pat Garratt - because most men simply don't believe that women object

There are many gaps in understanding between the sexes, but perhaps the greyest area is sexual harassment. One man's compliment - "You're looking particularly sexy today, Miranda" - is another woman's insult, especially if Miranda's thoughts are with the sales figures rather than her own personal statistics. Yet many men feel that, short of rape, they have as much licence to grope their secretaries as to grapple with their VAT.

Over the last two years, according to the Equal Opportunities Commission, sexual harassment has finally gained recognition as a serious problem for a woman. And with the most recent cases of Dr Cathy St Clair, the ESO scientist, and Mrs Jean Porcelli, the laboratory assistant, who both took their complaints of sexual harassment and discrimination to court - and won - it is clear that legal minds are now bending in sympathy.

'What women object to is the arrogance of such behaviour'

Alison Penny, a former administrative assistant with Reading Borough Council's recreation department told an industrial tribunal this week that a senior officer suggested she should pose in a football kit to promote a five-a-side tournament because she had "the biggest bust in the department". She lost the case - but the chairman said such incidents could amount to sexual harassment and sex discrimination.

What women object to is the arrogance and unprofessionalism of such male behaviour, and the implied threat to their jobs if they don't submit. "Unwanted verbal or sexual advances" is the TUC definition, and the crucial word is "unwanted". Harassed women hate the male attitude which assumes that his attentions are welcome, and which undervalues a female colleague's work role while promoting her sexual role.

Given the sensitivity of the problem, what should today's thrusting male executive watch out for if he isn't to fall foul of a harassment charge? "It's difficult to describe," confesses Professor Cary Cooper, co-author of *Stress and the Woman Manager*. "But it's the continuous wearing down of women through comments like 'You're looking good today' or 'We'll talk about that after a drink, pet', when you wouldn't suggest it to a man." Sometimes it's not what you say, it's the way you say it or the gestures. It's insidious behaviour that could be construed as a compliment or gallantry. Often the comments occur when men are doing a macho number in front of others, ganging up to put a woman down. It enhances their own role, which is what prejudice is all about.



A woman certainly doesn't need to look sexy to invite such behaviour, agrees Dr Rosalind Miles, author of *Danger, Men at Work*. So she must not feel guilty about provoking it. "It's not the randy male being carried away by the gorgeous crumpet in the red dress, or competing with them for promotion. They don't do it with senior women, which proves it is about power and dominance rather than sexuality, though men would deny it".

Harassment happens to self-confessed fat, frumpy 50-year-olds. Of course some women do use their sexuality at work but they give off very different signals and I think men should know better than respond in a sexual way. "One survey by the Alfred Marks Bureau showed that regular sexual remarks upset half of all women, and 42 per cent felt that any kind of touching was unacceptable. I think a lot of men either unconsciously or consciously touch women as

matter of patting or fondling, say. 'Let's agree, I won't grope you if you don't grope me.' Cultivate a repertoire of light but firm put-downs to try to keep a good working relationship going. If he persists, tell female colleagues what is happening, because they may think you're playing a little game to accelerate your promotion. "Together you could all decide on a collective strategy for dealing with the man. Tell your personnel department. However, as personnel is usually an arm of male management, they may consider such behaviour as being within the norm. Tell your union if you have one. And one final technique, warmly recommended by a girlfriend of mine: tell his wife". The traditional court of last resort has always been for the woman to leave her job but in the recession-hit 1980s, Dr Miles advises women to stay put if possible. So how should men act? "They should proceed on the assumption that their attentions are unwanted, unless they get a signal to the contrary - which is the opposite of most men's current practice". Professor Cooper believes that

'A lot of men touch women as they would children or dogs'

no woman should ever use female wiles to gain professional advantage. "Otherwise men see it as a first step. Woman at work - from clerks and secretaries upwards - should be professional. Although he says most men expect women "if they're smart" to be able to deal with gropers and pinchers, he believes few men would be able to cope if the situation were reversed. His own suggested solution is training - not assertiveness training for women but sensitization programmes for men. "As more women enter organizations, we ought to find out why men are frightened by them and feel the need to devalue them. We should look at men's negative blockage behaviour in two stages: first with men alone, then in mixed groups. "Men have had years of experience playing organizational politics and learning how to put people down. Unfortunately women haven't. I think in 20 or 30 years' time, when females are allowed total access to all jobs and are on equal footing with men in pay, status and so on, harassment won't pose such a threat".

Stress and the Woman Manager, by Davidson and Cooper, published by Blackwell, price £17.50. *Danger, Men at Work*, by Dr Rosalind Miles, Futura, £3.95.

TALKBACK

Beware of time snarers

From Mrs R.E. Cracker, Harestone Valley Road, Cuckham, Surrey.
In her article on time-share selling methods (July 18) Susan Pinkus suggests that attendance at a presentation will at least be rewarded with the promised gift. Not necessarily so! Like her, and for the same reasons, I was the first to leave a similar presentation last year, only to be told that the organizers had "run out of" supplies of the promised gift (a very modestly-priced camera). They took my address and said they would send me one.

Only after several phone calls and finally a personal letter to the managing director of the parent company was I offered the camera or cash equivalent. This company, interestingly enough, is one of those which have formed an association to promote a more acceptable code of conduct.

From M.J. Webster, Avondale Road, Wimbledon, London.
I have attended a similar presentation only to find it was a "hard sell" operation of the type we are constantly warned against in the form of door-to-door salesmen or telephone canvassers. The object of the presentation was to sign up people on the day, thereby allowing no time for reflection or, more important, to seek legal advice. Having signed up and changed my mind, I have found it almost impossible to extricate myself from the contract and have also learnt of others who are in a similar predicament.

Clean hands

FIRST PERSON

Jane Scott

A month ago I stood at the washbasin, picked up the soap and suddenly realized that I was doing something I had not done for the better part of three years - washing my hands without effort. This small pleasure, I hope, will also be the Prime Minister's when she, like me, has undergone an operation to correct a Dupuytren's contracture - in her case, of the little finger on her right hand. I had a more serious version of the operation on the same hand having waited five years. By then, my little finger and the one next to it were nearly touching the palm, and the top two joints of the middle finger were at right angles to it. It was only gradually afterwards that I realized what a handicap I had laboured under since my fingers became seriously distorted. The first excitement came after about three weeks when I was allowed to leave my bandage off, a stage delayed by the fact that I had contracted an infection. I sat down, tried to touch type - and was thrilled to discover I had not lost the skill. The next was finding that I could shake hands again. When introduced to someone, I had been forced to approach them with a vertical motion and slide my hand into theirs, rather like putting on a sock. But the biggest thrill came after two months when the wound healed and I was no longer banned from using my hands. Clean hands for me, and, let us hope, for Mrs Thatcher as well.

Gamma cuisine?

Tomorrow is the last day on which the public can make its views known to the DHSS's Advisory Committee on Irradiated Food. The committee will then sift the evidence to decide whether this form of food processing should be made legal in Britain.

Since the public and interested parties were invited to make their views known earlier this year, there has been a huge response, running into several thousands of letters and reports, but no date has yet been fixed for a decision.

Irradiation - technically known as ionizing radiation - is one of a number of hi-tech means of food processing introduced in the past few years. It is permitted in many European countries and, in a limited form, in the United States.

Foreign irradiated food usually bears the small label "Radura", which is supposed to be a symbol of quality. But the London Food Commission, which is campaigning against irradiation, says that

Should irradiation take its place among the other methods of food preservation allowed in Britain?

er there are serious or whether there is any harm to workers from radioactivity. Enthusiasm for the process says that irradiation will help to combat Britain's epidemic of food poisoning. "Cross contamination from raw poultry will come to an end", says Professor Geoffrey Campbell-Black, of the Leatherhead Food Research Association.

Opponents of the process are worried about quality control. They also fear that if irradiation is allowed - and this looks extremely likely - it will take over as the main method of food preservation.

At present irradiation is only one of a long list of food protection methods, including heat treatment, pasteuriza-

high temperature before the canning process takes place. Fermentation, to take another example, involves the use of micro-organisms to preserve food. Though it is an ancient form of preservation, modern food scientists know exactly which micro-organisms are doing what to prevent the growth of spoilage organisms.

The questions taxing nutritionists are: how far should we allow our food to be processed, and do these preservation methods give us a balanced diet? "There are two ways of looking at it", says Geoffrey Campbell-Black. "Either we have fresh fruit and vegetables only in their short season or we try to evolve methods of preserving them that will be safe and wholesome. Is it better to have apples only during their harvest or to be able to eat them all the year round?" Patrick Halford, a biochemist with the Institute of Optimum Nutrition, says: "If we look at all the artificial ways of preserving food, irradiation doesn't come out too badly. The point to remember is that all forms of interference with food, even cooking, destroy nutrient content to some degree. "Our fear is that the food industry will decide that irradiation isn't too bad and that this will lead to more treatments over which the public have no control. If irradiation comes in as a matter of course, it could be only a short time before all foods are irradiated. At present we have no real long-term evidence that small amounts of radiation are harmless; neither do we know how far altering the molecular structure of our food may destroy enzymes.

"I feel certain that irradiation will come in, but we must make sure that we know which foods are irradiated, so that we have a choice as to whether or not to buy it."

The London Food Commission, originally set up by the GLC, says that the small "Radura" label is misleading and insufficient. It argues that all such food should have a large "irradiated" label on it. "We do not feel the 'Radura' symbol is a guarantee of any kind of quality", the commission said yesterday.

Liz Hodgkinson



An enlarged version of the symbol on foreign irradiated food many people do not realize the symbol's significance. The process itself employs gamma rays emitted by cobalt-60 or caesium-137 - both derived from nuclear waste - which are passed through the food with the object of destroying all micro-organisms. The rays knock mould off fruit and vegetables, reduce salmonella in chicken and lower the amount of bacteria in spices. Commonly irradiated foods are strawberries, potatoes, peppers, onions, garlic and shallots. There is some reduction in the vitamin and mineral content of the food, but as yet nobody knows for sure whether, drying, vacuum packing, chemical preservatives, fermentation, modified atmosphere packing and simply adding salt or sugar. All these methods nowadays involve complex technological processes and demand accurate quality control. Heat treatment, for example, is used in several ways. Blanching for one to eight minutes at 100°C before freezing and canning inactivates enzymes that would cause the food to deteriorate. Pasteurization of milk - heating at 72°C for about 15 minutes - destroys some organisms. Most canned and other sealed foods are subjected to a

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Theatre in the rough
A New Vic has sprung from urban weeds in Stoke-on-Trent
Peter Chiesman knew he had finally struck lucky when he was asked to direct a new production of *Theatre in the rough*. The play, which was written by a young playwright, is a powerful and moving story of a man who has been abandoned by his wife and who must struggle to survive in a world of urban decay. The production is a triumph of imagination and skill, and it is a pity that it is so little known.

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THE ARTS

مكتبة المحل

Television Frothing about

The most curious thing about Remington Steele (Channel 4) is that the BBC should have...

In the second of our excerpts from his diaries and sketch-books of the RSC's recent tour in Australia, Antony Sher, alias Richard III, finds Melbourne exhilarating, tiring and ultimately a happy place for a birthday

Dame Edna and the old earth mother

Tuesday May 20: I like Melbourne and I think the feeling is mutual: this is a much more cosmopolitan, theatre-loving city than Adelaide and there is a real buzz about the RSC being here...



producers of our show, Derek Glynne, had made me promise him not to do so because there had been many accidents over the years...

Promenade Concert Colours fading

BBC Welsh SO/Hoddinott/Frémaux Albert Hall/Radio 3

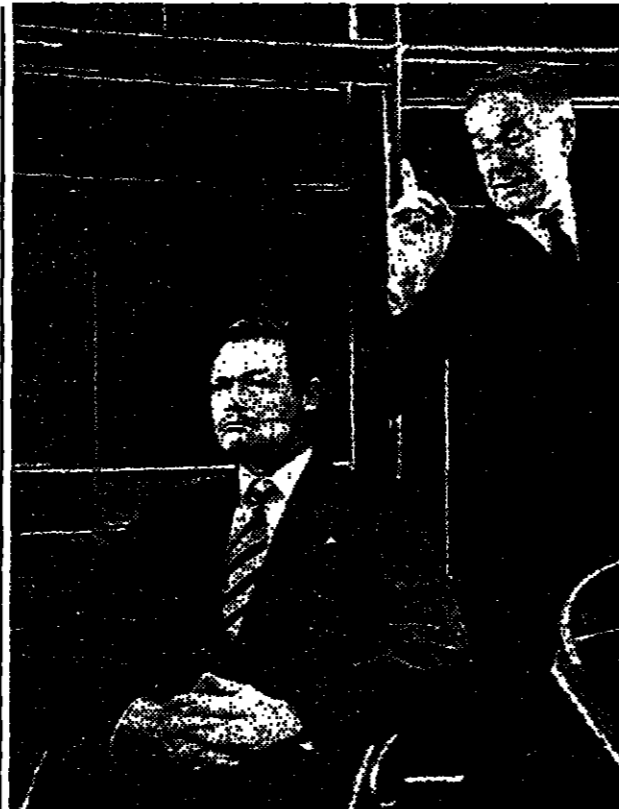
For the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra to offer London something representative of recent composition in the Principality is laudable. But it is hard to believe that Alun Hoddinott's short 1970 work, The sun, the great luminary of the universe, is among the best...

Dance Effort rewarded

Giselle Festival Hall Because we do not yet have a proper theatre suitable and available for the large-scale dance companies in London...

Theatre

The Cocktail Party Phoenix T.S. Eliot's most commercially successful play was a conscious attempt to sublimate his natural instinct for the rhetorical mode of drama...



Watchable and stylish: Alec McCowen (centre) with Simon Ward and Sheila Allen

Other music Time for variety

Summerscope Elizabeth Hall Five weeks of a new-style nightly series called 'Summerscope', embracing opera, dance and jazz as well as other music, began on Monday night with a long programme of multi-purpose character...

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LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET advertisement featuring Giselle and Yoko Morishita.

John Percival

There was the liveliness of the chorus dancers in Act I as well as Alexander Grant's generally autocratic Prince of Courland...

The Cocktail Party Phoenix

ships; here it is rendered almost as though the cast were practising conversation in a foreign language...

Theatre

Edwards' former lover Celia has met a gruesome end in foreign parts, having been smeared with a toothsome unguent and crucified next to an art-hill...

RSC THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR advertisement for the Baric Theatre.

Martin Cropper Noël Goodwin

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Job prospects worsening, says CBI poll

British manufacturing industry is in the doldrums, with orders, output and exports stagnating and job prospects declining... Job prospects are worsening, says the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) in a new poll.



Dr Maurice Gillibrand (left) and Sir Michael Edwardes address yesterday's annual meeting

Edwards offers to resign
By Cliff Feltham
managed company in this country... Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman and chief executive of Chloride Group, offered to resign yesterday after criticism of his leadership.

NatWest interim profits up 34%

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent
National Westminster Bank comfortably beat City expectations yesterday when it announced a 34 per cent increase in its half-year pretax profits... NatWest announced a 10.4 per cent increase in its interim dividend to 7p from 6.34p.

Treasury blocks SIB move

By Our Banking Correspondent
A move by the Treasury to block the appointment to the Securities and Investments Board of Mr John Kay... The Treasury, the DTI and the Bank of England would not comment yesterday on the situation.

Volcker fears wave of protectionism

From Bailey Morris, Washington
Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, said yesterday that the world was very close to the edge of a wave of protectionism... A sign of the growing sense of urgency is rising protectionism in the United States.

French buy for Booker

Booker, the food distribution and agribusiness group, is spending about £10 million on a 38 per cent stake in La Vie Claire... Booker has an option to take its stake up to at least 67 per cent by 1990.

Stakis deal

Stakis, the hotel group, is making an agreed £2.7 million takeover bid for Plan Investment Group... The operation will fit in with Stakis's existing investment company, Mannin.

Dee up 29%

Dee Corporation's pretax profits leapt 29 per cent to £83 million for the year to April 26 on turnover up 17.5 per cent to £2.86 billion... Tempus, page 18

CAP rises

CAP group, the software company, made taxable profits of £2.7 million in the year ending April 30, a rise of 28 per cent, on sales 38 per cent higher... Tempus, page 18

No tin verdict

A decision on the future of Cornwall's tin industry has been postponed again, probably until mid-August... VSEL dealings

£19m cash call at TVS

Television South, the independent television contractor for the South and South-East of England, is raising £19.3 million from a one-for-three rights issue... TVS, which earlier this month announced a 91 per cent increase in half-year profits, is also forecasting an increase in the full-year dividend from 11.4p to 14p.

Oil price fall 'hits coal recovery'

The sharp drop in the oil price has pushed back the target date for breakeven at British Coal by up to two years... The improved trading performance meant that British Coal last year kept well within the external financing limit of £929 million agreed with the Government.

Government set to write off £74m at Royal Ordnance

The Government was prepared to write off all rationalization costs at Royal Ordnance, the state-owned weapons manufacturer... The MoD had agreed to source all its explosives requirement from Royal Ordnance at agreed prices.

Table with columns: Wall Street, Nikkei Dow, Hong Kong, Hang Seng, Amsterdam Gan, Sydney: AO, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Bruesel, General, Paris: CAC, S&K General, London closing prices.

Table with columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, CURRENCIES, NORTH SEA OIL.

AA High Growth lump sum investment. The Fund that has grown by 250% in 7 years. Includes details of the fund's performance and contact information.

Labour push for fairness in jobs. No answer on teacher pay deal. Music dispm.

High Tides. Contains financial data and other market-related text.

WALL STREET

Dow decline continues

New York (Reuter) - Stocks drifted lower in early trading yesterday after Monday's big decline. Traders appeared to be concentrating on the bearish fundamentals that led to sharp setbacks this month. A mild downturn in interest rates failed to divert attention from Monday's big rise in rates. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 1.26 at 1,772.64, with the transport average up 2.37 at 716.64 and the 65 stocks average down 1.48 at 684.61.

Table with columns for stock names (e.g., AMR, ASA, Allied Signal), current prices, and percentage changes. Includes a sub-section for 'CANADIAN PRICES' listing various Canadian stocks like Alcan, Inco, and others.

Holmes to seek full listing with record profit forecast

Holmes & Marichant Group, the sales promotion and graphic design consultancy, has announced its intention to seek a full listing in the Unlisted Securities Market in May, yesterday announced its graduation to a full listing. It also forecast record profits and dividend, and a proposed one-for-one capitalization issue. Holmes predicts pretax profits of £1.95 million for the year to September 30 against £1.23 million last year. The directors intend to recommend a 1.75p dividend - equivalent to a record 3.5p on the existing share capital. Mr John Holmes, chief executive, said the company was restructuring in advance of making acquisitions this year. "We are looking at both public and private public relations companies and talking to a number of companies in consumer, corporate and financial public relations."

Profitability begins at home for NatWest

Anyone who thought that increasing competition in domestic banking was forcing down the clearers' profit margins need only look at National Westminster's performance over the first half of this year for proof of the opposite. While the rest of the world continues to look unpromising, the home market for lending and commission earning business seems to be going from strength to strength. Out of total pretax profits of £482 million, 56 per cent came from domestic operations compared with 56 per cent of a £361 million total last year. Not all was roses: there was an increase of £8 million in bad debt provisions and, despite attracting 108,000 new accounts since the introduction of free-if-in-credit banking, NatWest still reckons to lose about £18 million in commission income this year. Yet the message is unmistakable: there is still a lot of money to be made in domestic banking, ranging from mortgages to corporate lending. The bank continued the policy it started last year of emphasizing tax efficient specific bad debt provisions instead of the less efficient general provisions by putting most of the £141 million in new provisions into this category. The success of the British business has somewhat unbalanced the traditional 50/50 split of home and international operations, but this only reflects the relative profitability of each area. International profits remained virtually static. New lending by the bank increased by a mere 5 per cent after exchange rate adjustments, indicating that - like most of its competitors - NatWest is treading water on balance sheet expansion. That, together with June's rights issue, has left it a strong balance sheet. The gearing ratio jumped nearly 2 per cent, from 4.83 last year to 8.87 per cent. The rights issue money will have to be used eventually, but NatWest insists that it will not go towards aggressive growth in the balance sheet. Analysts will, no doubt, be keeping their eyes skinned for signs of too rapid lending, particularly overseas, in a world that will continue to look challenging for traditional banking business.

Hardly pausing for breath, the company has paid more than £670 million this year on the purchase of two sports goods retailing chains in the US and the Fine Fare food retailing group. None of these acquisitions was made early enough in the year to have had much impact on the results to April 26, announced yesterday. Pretax profit jumped 29 per cent to £83 million on turnover up 17.5 per cent to £2.9 billion. This was achieved despite a doubling of interest charges to £7.2 million as a result of store openings and higher stocks. But this area is being brought under greater control as International Stores is integrated into Gateway Foodmarkets and the duplication of stocks is eliminated. Further stocks rationalization is likely as Fine Fare is assimilated. The Fine Fare name will disappear over the next two or three years, and Dee Corporation will then operate its hypermarkets under the Carrefour name, leaving Gateway for the less big supermarkets. The addition of Fine Fare gives Dee an estimated turnover of £3 billion in grocery sales, with 11 per cent of the food retailing market. It is now the third largest food retailer in the UK, after Sainsbury and Tesco. The two American acquisitions give the group 131 sports goods retailers. This is a highly fragmented market estimated to be worth \$1.4 billion a year; and Dee is now the leader with a 4 per cent market share. The market is growing at an estimated annual rate of 3.5 per cent and margins are 7 to 8 per cent. Dee will pursue an active store development programme in the US. These acquisitions will allow Dee's pretax profits to rise over £200 million this year, giving earnings per share of around 18.3p, implying a p/e multiple of 12.5. This is not expensive given Fine Fare's potential. However, there is some evidence of indigestion of Dee paper issued to finance these acquisitions. Furthermore, Associated British Foods has still to dispose of its 1.5 million shares, which would result in the shares drifting in the short term.

United Transport Containers Holdings: Mr Chris Beckett and Mr Bill Shipley become joint managing directors. Lucas Industries: Mr Anthony Gill becomes deputy chairman. Honeywell Aerospace & Defence: Mr Richard Tonge becomes managing director. British Library Humanities and Social Sciences: Mrs Sarah Jacqueline Tyacke has been appointed director, special collections.

Stafford Knight and Co: Mr John Hart has been made joint managing director and Mr James Dufford director. Towry Law Group: Mr Christopher Backhouse becomes a director. Towry Law & Company and Mr Richard Palmer a director. Towry Law (Pensions Services) and Towry Law (Pensions Consultants). Crown Financial Management: Mr Michael Christoffersen becomes director and general manager.

Cash plea for design: A plea for more government funds for the Design Council was made yesterday by the outgoing chairman, Sir William Barlow. In the council's 1985-6 report, he said that the most significant initiative by the Government has been the Support for Design scheme which enables companies to have the help of a design consultant. He added: "But the very success of Support for Design has now brought disappointment, for, earlier this year, demand for design projects funded under the scheme began to outstrip funds. The budget has risen by £1 million to £7.5 million this year but at the beginning of 1986 about 75 companies were unable to start projects because of a shortage of funds. In response, the terms of the grants were changed and companies now have to pay one third rather than a quarter of the consultant's cost and must show that the subsidy would improve international competitiveness. Subsequently applications fell 20 per cent.

Australian boost for UK developers

British property developers, notably Hammerson, MEPC and Capital & Counties, with between 12.5 and 20 per cent of their portfolios in Australia, will benefit from moves to reduce the power of Australia's Foreign Investment Review Board. The Australian government is making these changes in an effort to halt the fall in its currency value by encouraging foreign investors back to the country. Previous restrictions on property development by foreign companies meant that at least 90 per cent of their interests had to be sold to an Australian investor within a prescribed timescale. The relaxation of the regulations means that the likes of Hammerson, MEPC and Capital & Counties will be able to retain 100 per cent of their schemes. More importantly, the companies will be able to decide if and when to sell all or part of their interests at their leisure. "Forced sales" will no longer be the order of the day. Indeed, the Hammerson Group has announced it will be looking for new developments in Australia as a result of the new, relaxed investment guidelines. It says the impact of currency fluctuations on its portfolio will be helped by these measures. In future, applications by foreign buyers to acquire a 50 per cent stake in commercial property investments will be automatically granted by the FIRB, encouraging money from Hong Kong and Japan into Australia. The under-supply of good buildings allied with buoyant letting markets in the large cities, bodes well for rental growth. The British developers can look forward to rising prices and falling yields as a result of the relaxation of the foreign investment guidelines.

TO SEE HOW WELL WE'VE DONE OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS,

Infographic showing four arrows pointing up, representing financial performance metrics: PRE-TAX PROFITS UP 34%, POST-TAX PROFITS UP 43%, DIVIDEND (7p per share) UP 10.4%, TOTAL ASSETS - £76 billion, RETURN ON ASSETS 12.8p in the £.

NatWest The Action Bank advertisement featuring the NatWest logo and the slogan 'PRESS FOR ACTION'. Text describes the last half-year's success and lists various banking services and their interest rates.

Scrap industry 'faces works closures'

With sales of scrap ferrous metal down an estimated 10 per cent in the first half of this year and exports plunging 20 per cent, the scrap industry has been hit by redundancies, short-time working and a number of factory closures, the British Scrap Federation reported yesterday. Steel scrap prices have dropped to £37.50 a tonne, the lowest since mid-1983. The federation said scrap stocks are now so low that shortages are possible although there is no indication of any improvement in demand.

ROBERT HORNE GROUP plc advertisement. Includes company logo, registered office information, and a table of share capital details: Authorised 8,000,000; Issued and fully paid 6,795,845.

BASE LENDING RATES advertisement listing various bank rates: Adam & Company 10.00%, Citibank Savings 10.75%, etc.

Vertical advertisement for 'Debt talks sought' with contact information for Robert Horne Group plc and NatWest.

Oppenheim stakes in Argyle and Kellock could be up for sale

By Michael Clark

Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier whose Traxwood Investments is involved in an £80 million bid for Aikhen House...

The shares in both companies held steady yesterday. Kellock at 73p, where it is valued at around \$3 million...

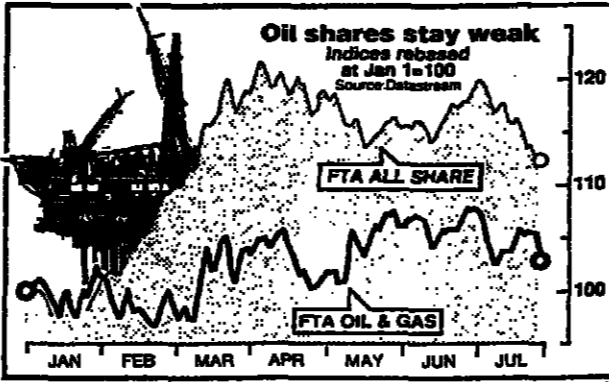
MAI built up a small stake in Argyle some time ago then

sold out. "Obviously if offers come along and are attractive we will receive them."

The rest of the equity market recovered from a nervous start and went on to enjoy some useful gains after shuffling off the sharp overnight fall on Wall Street.

Among the leaders, the jobs were shaken by a sudden flurry of activity in shares of British Telecom...

English China Clays, another dull market of late, met with renewed support, climbing 9p to 317p amid renewed speculation that BTR has been passing its slide rule over the company...



Oil shares stay weak. Indices rebound. Source: Datastream. FTA ALL SHARE. FTA OIL & GAS.

1,271.6. Its broader-based counterpart, the FT-SE 100, also overcame an early fall of 11.1 to finish 7 up at 1,556.4.

Among the leaders, the jobs were shaken by a sudden flurry of activity in shares of British Telecom...

Before the figures, the shares were trading around the 140p level. The oil sector generally has been given the cold shoulder by investors fearful of the impact of lower prices...

USM-quoted Plan Invest, the personal financial planning consultant, jumped 18p to a peak of 123p after an agreed bid worth 126p-a-share from Stakis...

The Geneva discussions of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries continued with still no sign of a solution to the current crisis and revised production quotas...

But oil shares recovered from a hesitant start helped by an improvement in the price of crude oil on the spot market. The price of Brent crude for September delivery rose 4c to \$9.60.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues including Anglia Secc (115p), Ashby (115p), BB Design (7p), Bovero (145p), Bopul (125p), Borsari (145p), Bostan (125p), Brocard (145p), Brocard (125p), Costed Estates (84p), Evans Hallshaw (120p), Fletcher Dennis (70p), GT Management (20p), Guthrie Corp (150p), Hanson (150p).

RIGHTS ISSUES

Table listing rights issues including Abaco Inv N/P, Amalgamated N/P, Colorol N/P, De La Rue F/P, Gannet N/P, Gannet N/P, Gannet N/P, Gannet N/P, Gannet N/P, Gannet N/P.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London Financial Futures data for three months sterling and three months Eurodollar, including open, high, low, and close prices for various contracts.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing Foreign Exchange rates for Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, and Dollar Spot Rates for various countries including Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, U.A.E., and Yugoslavia.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table showing Traditional Options data including First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Declaration, and For Settlement for various stocks.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table showing Money Market and Gold data including Rates generally unchanged, Treasury Bills (Discount %), Prime Bank Bills (Discount %), Trade Bills (Discount %), and Local Authority Deposits (%).

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table showing London Traded Options data for various stocks including Allied Lyons, BP, Cons Gold, Courtauld, Com Union, Cable & Wire, Debitors, GEC, Grand Mat, ICI, Land Sec, Marks & Spen, Shell Trans, Tristram House, Bechem, Boots, BT, Bass, Blue Circle, De Beers, Demons, GKN, Glynco, and Hanson.

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Table showing Euro Money Deposits data for various banks and currencies, including Dollar, Deutsche, and Sterling deposits.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet Whitehall pressure scrapes the barrel

The draft accounts for Royal Ordnance raise one glaring question: why did it take so long to cancel the flotation? The group's new top team under Bryan Basset certainly worked some minor miracles of quick re-adjustment...

In that context, the Department of Transport's caution in selling British Airways remains puzzling. There is no such puzzle over Peter Walker's reluctance to privatize the Openair Executive of British Coal...

Australian action replay

The easing of restrictions on foreign investment in Australia may lessen the clamour for even-handedness which surfaced in Britain over the Elders IXL bid for Allied-Lyons. Not that this has anything to do with the change. Australia's government has finally acknowledged that the likes of BTR (whose Australian offshoot BTR Nylex had the good timing to introduce its shares to London on Monday) could ginger up sleepy, protected Australian industrial companies...

This measure, with the reversal of the extension this month of withholding tax, and a reluctant rise in domestic interest rates, were announced to help stem the third precipitate run on the Australian dollar in 18 months. It duly steadied yesterday. But currency dealers will be looking with beady eyes at the federal budget on August 19 before changing their pessimistic attitudes.

gins at West. Hardly pausing for breath, the company has just sold more than 2670 million...

Debt talks sought. New York Repeating - The company has announced that it is seeking a restructuring of its debt...

Debt talks sought. New York Repeating - The company has announced that it is seeking a restructuring of its debt...

THE BIG BANG SHOW. Make sure your firm exhibit at the most important corporate financial services event before Big Bang. CITY 86. The Barbican Centre 17-19 September 1986. Ring Elizabeth Cornelius now for details and Stand availability on 01-493 0000 OR 821 5555. Organized by FIBEX, 55 Catherine Place, London SW1E 6DY. A subsidiary of Catalyst Communications Group PLC.

Main table containing unit trust information, including columns for Bid, Offer, Weekly Change, and Yield. It lists various unit trusts such as Abbey Trust Managers, Allied Finance Unit Trusts, and others.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for Company, Price, Change, and Yield. Includes entries like High Low Company, A B M Company, etc.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for Company, Price, Change, and Yield. Includes entries like 1986 High Low Company, 1986 A B M Company, etc.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various metals and oils. Includes sections for LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, SUGAR, COCOA, COPPER, and SOYABEAN.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts with columns for Company, Price, Change, and Yield. Includes entries like 1986 High Low Company, 1986 A B M Company, etc.

Small text at the bottom of the page, possibly a footer or additional notes.

PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE LONDON PROPERTIES

ALEXA COURT 71-75 LEXHAM GARDENS KENSINGTON, LONDON W8. A major new project of innovative design... releasing 22 apartments for sale on leases for 125 years.

THE ANCHOR BREWHOUSE ADJOINING TOWER BRIDGE. London's most magnificent riverside development. WALK TO THE CITY. Studio's from £87,500.

ST JOHNS WOOD RYDERS TERRACE. A rare opportunity to acquire an exquisite Freehold double fronted NEWS PROPERTY featuring 200 year old Japanese oak floors.

MORTGAGE & FINANCIAL ADVICE. Immediate & Impartial. MORTGAGES - 100% advanced up to £120,000.

Winkworth BARNSBURY, N1. A magnificent 3rd Georgian residence in the Barbican conservation area.

FINCHLEY CENTRAL, N3. £190,000. A choice of 2 quality newly built 4 bedroom flat properties.

Robson Limited. 01-623 3495. Estate agents.

BEAUCHAMP ESTATES. ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE OPENING OF THEIR FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

Winkworth MORTGAGES. TERMS NOW AVAILABLE. 3 1/2 times income or 2 1/2 times joint income.

Conveyancing £280 by City Solicitors. BARRETT'S SOLICITORS, 9 QUEEN VICTORIA ST, LONDON EC4.

Chapter IV. Memories of Sylvia HIGHBURY. First love and nursery tale before the glowing fire.

Forley 01-584 6491. CHELSEA, S.W.3 - 1ST TIME ADVERTISED. Superiorly modernised family house.

SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.7. Modernised 3rd floor flat in a superb Georgian building.

MARLE ARCH. Luxury 1 bed flat in sought after block.

WORK - HOME W4. Quiet new semi with 4 bedrooms.

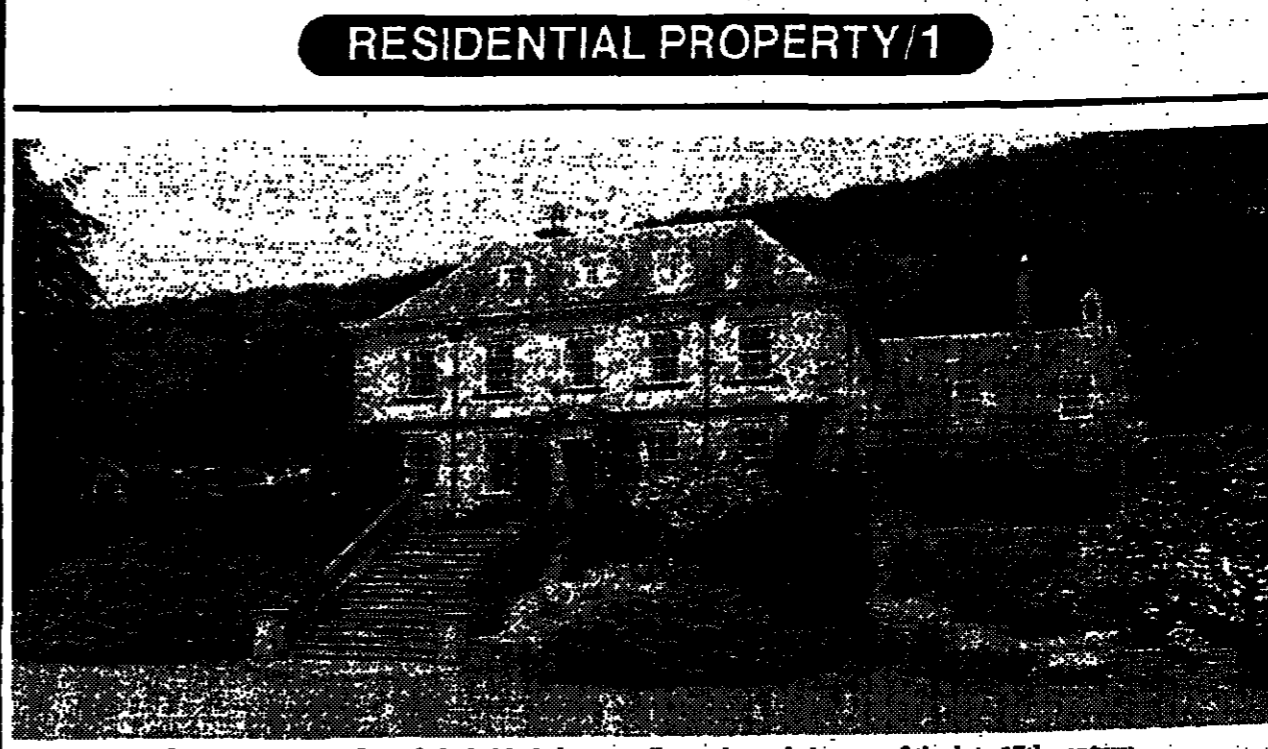
BATTERSEA TRIANGLE, SW11. A selection of 3/4 bed houses in the luxury development.

BEST RIVER VIEWS. In London? Smart 2 dbse bed pb flat, lg recep.

BLOOMSBURY, WC1. 2nd floor 1 bed flat in P/B block.

Winkworth. BELMONTON ROAD, N7. Very bright 2 bedroom Victorian flat.

Winkworth. WILTON CRESCENT, S.W.1. A superb house with 4 bedrooms.



Looking north, looking good

Oswaldkirk Hall: One of Yorkshire's least spoilt gentleman's houses of the late 17th century. It may surprise some in the prosperous property hot-house of the South-East that there is life north of Watford.

By Christopher Warman. Property Correspondent. in the winter the garden is at the bonom of the river.

Wentworth Woodhouse, the Yorkshire palace with the 600ft frontage: Fit for a Prince?

JOHN D WOOD. Estate agents. BARNES STREET, SW6. New in the market excellent period house.

BATTERSEA RIVERSIDE. Superbly decorated 2 bedroom flat in prestigious block.

MASKELL'S ESTATE AGENTS. KINGSBURY, SW17. Large 4 bedroom Victorian house.

WEST HAMPTHEAD. Interior designed 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage.

REED & LEWIS. BREADING GREEN, SW18. South London house with 4 bedrooms.

REED & LEWIS. 244 8377. OPEN 7 DAYS. HOUSE BOAT 4 bedrooms.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

late 17th century... ig good... Pathetic... earlier house... The reason... rooms... owned by... This is also... (19) also... FOR SALE... RESISTA CARPETS... MARKSON'S PIANO... MARKSON'S PIANOS... BOWTIE FALCON BOAT... BARGAIN FLIGHTS... TOP DECK FLIGHT CENTRE... ANNUAL WELFARE TRUST... THE SPECIAL MENAP APPEAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS
CANNON PETER - On 13th July 1986, aged 92 years, died...

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
CONGRATULATIONS on the wedding of...

WANTED
TWO young boys... aged 12 and 13...

HOME & GARDEN
JEFFERIES LANDSCAPING COMPANY
Professional gardeners and landscapers...

SHORT LETS
OCEAN HOMES - 2 beds from £200...

FLATSHIRE
MURPHY & SONS - Professional cleaners and decorators...

CRUISE & SAIL ABROAD
AMERICAN BUYERS SEEK
Assess and advise on American property...

GENERAL
TAKING OFF to Paris, Amsterdam, Rome, London, etc...

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We can supply a first class villa...

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TRAILFINDERS
More low-cost flights via more routes than any other agency.

SWITZERLAND FROM ONLY £99 RETURN
Save with Swissair's Super Apex, London to Zurich or Geneva daily on convenient afternoon flights.

THE SPECIAL MENAP APPEAL
The results of the Menap Wood Search are as follows: Mr M. Butler-Hole, Mr J. Marshall - 1 hole for 2 in Europe...

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

AMERICAN BUYERS SEEK
Assess and advise on American property...

BUYING ANTIQUES?
Consult Britain's largest-selling antiques magazine.

GENERAL
LONDON
SUSSEX
WALES

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
HANDYMAN'S NOTICE GIVEN...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
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THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
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LEGAL NOTICES
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

Law Report July 30 1986 House of Lords

Use of foreign discovery rules is not unconscionable interference

South Carolina Insurance Co v Assurantie Maatschappij 'De Zeeven Provincien' NV
Same v Al Ahlia Insurance Co and Others
Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman, Lord MacKay of Clashfern and Lord Goff of Chelvey (Speeches sold July 29)

Cause of action under street works Act arises when cost of making good damage is incurred

Yorkshire Electricity Board v British Telecommunications plc
Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman, Lord MacKay of Clashfern and Lord Ackner (Speeches sold July 29)

RACING: ALLEX MILROD AND GREEN RUBY TAKE TOP PRIZES ON GLORIOUS GODWOOD'S FIRST DAY

Consistent Sonic Lady can underline her claim to milers' crown

By Mandarin

Sonic Lady, who has yet to run a bad race, can strengthen her claim to the title of consistent milers' crown...

to live up to his trainer's exalted opinion of him. If the skies do open, Scottish Reel, whose best form is all on soft ground, would be a...

longs when third to Posedynov, who declines a rematch here on 8lb worse terms for 2 1/2 lengths.

Today's course specialists

GOODWOOD TRAINERS: W Ham, 35 winners from 143 races, 24.2% G Harwood, 49 from 208, 23.5%...

DONCASTER TRAINERS: M Thomas, 20 winners from 78 races at 25.6%, W Ham, 22 from 78, 28.2%...

REDGAR TRAINERS: M Thomas, 20 winners from 65 races, 30.8%, J Wicks, 19 from 131, 14.5%...

Today's distance of 1 1/4 miles and this palloping track look tailor-made for Dhoni and Carson's strong handling...

The five-year-old is weighted to beat Sarfraz on their Bath running together in June and Tigerwood looked to have improved in the meantime...



Royal Loft (left) holds Holbrooke Sutton by a short head in the Oak Tree Stakes at Goodwood (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

Starkey quickly back in the groove

By Michael Seely

Greville Starkey celebrated his return to the saddle when riding Allex Milrod to a three-quarter length victory over...

Young Jason and Green Ruby launched their attacks on the far side of the course, showing the better turn of finishing speed...

George and was placed in five other group races. The Oak Tree Stakes resulted in a 1-4-1 win for Royal Loft and Ray Cochrane...

William Jarvis, saddling his first winner at the big Goodwood meeting in his second season, said: "Ray got a lot of stick at Newmarket which I understand was because of the Royal Loft...

Eastern bloc will be tough. I am a great admirer of Penmie Walk, who has graduated through the ranks to become the leading miler of his generation...

FOR THE RECORD. CRICKET. FENCING. SPEEDWAY. TENNIS. Various news snippets and results from other sports.

Goodwood selections

- 2.30 Greenstallie Hill, 3.0 Tigerwood, 3.20 Cutting Blade, 4.10 Sonic Lady, 4.40 No Beating Harts, 5.10 DHONI (nap).

Yarmouth results

- 1.15 (1) VICTORY BALLARD (A) 10.00, 2.15 (1) VICTORY BALLARD (A) 10.00, 3.15 (1) VICTORY BALLARD (A) 10.00...

GOODWOOD

- 2.30 EBF FINDON MAIDEN FILLES STAKES (2-Y-O: £5,205: 6f) (14 runners)

BBC2

- 4.40 SINGLETON HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £4,596: 5f) (8)

Windsor - Monday

- 1.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00, 2.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00, 3.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00...

BBC2

- 4.10 SWETENHAM STUD SUSSEX STAKES (Group 1: £155,226: 1m)

Windsor - Monday

- 1.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00, 2.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00, 3.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00...

Windsor - Monday

- 1.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00, 2.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00, 3.15 (1) BATTLE SHIRE (W) 10.00...

Results from Goodwood

- 2.30 MILECROSS STAKES (Group 1: £21,000: 2-Y-O: 2m)

Results from Goodwood

- 2.45 REDCAR SILVER SALVER STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,800: 7f)

Results from Goodwood

- 2.45 RED CAR SILVER SALVER STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,800: 7f)

Results from Goodwood

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Results from Goodwood

- 2.45 RED CAR SILVER SALVER STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,800: 7f)

FOOTBALL

Bassett's promise to improve discipline

Wimbledon, the first division newcomers, are smarting from a £2,000 fine, with another £1,500 hanging over their heads...

BOXING

Reminder for Sims of a chance lost

Steve Sims, of Newport, will have an extra incentive when he challenges Robert Dickie, a fellow Welshman...

Doncaster selections

- 1.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7, 2.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7, 3.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7...

Doncaster selections

- 1.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7, 2.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7, 3.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7...

Doncaster selections

- 1.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7, 2.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7, 3.00 GOLDEN ANCHOVA (E) 9-7...

Sprinters turn out in force at Deauville

British sprinters will descend on Deauville en masse for the £25,376 Prix Maurice de Gheest this Sunday...

Blinkered first time

Kevin Darley, who had an appendix operation a fortnight ago, makes a quick return to the saddle at Redcar today...

Carr's journey pays dividend

Frank Carr, paying his first visit to Yarmouth in 25 years as a trainer, saddled Murillo to win the Marina Selling Handicap...

O'Leary retires

Ron O'Leary, the northern jump jockey, is retiring from the saddle because of a knee problem...

England's oarsmen emerge on top

Cricketer shines at badminton

1986 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Australian victory opens up title race

England confront Canada in the ring

Redgrave's power and stamina land first major triple victory

By Jim Railton

The ultimate achievement of becoming the first rower to win three gold medals in an international men's championship fell to Steven Redgrave yesterday...

which was predictably the hardest race of the regatta. Redgrave and Holmes went off exceptionally fast...

England's other medal winners yesterday were all bronze and in most cases had to be hard-earned. They came in the men's coxless fours...

Exciting race for minor medals

The toughest race in terms of quality was left to the last race of the day. It provided the drama and a fitting climax to the Commonwealth Games regatta...

England's other medal winners yesterday were all bronze and in most cases had to be hard-earned. They came in the men's coxless fours...

Still champions

Carolyn Waldo and Michelle Cameron, the two champions, completed Canada's domination of the synchronized swimming events on Monday night...



Gold standard: Steven Redgrave with the medals that give him a niche in rowing history (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

The girl dying to stay at home

By Pat Butcher Athletics Correspondent

If Liz Lynch had stopped to chat to every admirer yesterday, she would still be out on her first training session...

Top nations face a real strength test

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The true test of strength between England and Canada, the two strongest nations in the absence of the Africans, begins in earnest today...

Line's first defeat

By Gordon Allan

Wendy Line of England lost for the first time in the women's singles at Balgownie yesterday...

Horne comes to learn and makes mark

By Richard Eaton

Phil Horne, a 26-year-old New Zealander, who opens the batting for Auckland Cricket Club, is in Britain until next March...

Sze Yu hopes for a double

By David Miller

Sze Yu is from Communist China and now a naturalized Australian living in Sydney. He is 23, smiles a lot, speaks better English than you would expect...

Canadians are set to go on centre stage

By Philip Nickson

Canada are set to gain a more comprehensive command of the wrestling competition now that the original 13 countries remain...

BADMINTON

Men's singles: FIRST ROUND: L. McKenna (Que) 15-11; A. S. ... SECOND ROUND: S. Baddeley (Eng) 15-10; K. Poole (Can) 15-10...

Women's Singles

S. McCrene (Scot) 15-11; M. Stettmann (Ger) 15-11; J. ... Pairs: England (J. Stubbings and J. Vales) 15-10...

Women's Doubles

Light-weight coxless fours: FINAL: England (A. Forbes, G. Hodges, L. Clark, J. Burns) 6:27.32...

SWIMMING

100 metres backstroke: HEAT ONE: 1. S. Murphy (Can) 58.03; 2. M. ... 200 metres freestyle: HEAT ONE: 1. J. Plummer (Aus) 1:59.50...

WEIGHTLIFTING

110 kg class: FINAL POSITIONS: 1. K. Roy (Can) 166.0 kg; 2. ... KEY: AUS: Australia; CAN: Canada...

TODAY

BADMINTON (at Meadowbank): Men's singles 3rd and 4th rounds; Women's singles 3rd and 4th rounds...

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Men's singles: FIRST ROUND: 1. M. ... SECOND ROUND: 1. ...

CYCLING

4,000 metres individual pursuit: SEMI-FINALS: C. Sturgess (Eng) 4min 30.28; ...

SHOOTING

Small bore rifle prone individual: 1. A. Smith (Aus) 599.9; 2. J. Knowles (Scot) 597.4...

MONDAY'S LATE RESULTS

ATHLETICS: Botswana 21, N. Ireland 15, Canada 14, ... SWIMMING: Men: 4x100m freestyle: 1. Australia (C. Fosale, M. ...)

BOXING

Bantamweight: QUARTER-FINALS: R. Nash (N. Ire) vs C. Evans (Can)...

SHOOTING

800 metres freestyle: HEAT THREE: 1. K. McKelvey (Scot) 44:59; 2. J. ...

BOWLS

Men: Singles (Can) 11-4; M. ... Pairs: Canada (W. Boettger and R. Jones) 11-4...

Men's Singles

FINAL: 1. Canada (P. Turner, K. Hatfield, P. ... COXED FOURS: FINAL: 1. England (M. Cross, A. ...)

Men's Doubles

FINAL: 1. P. Water and B. Ford (Can) 5min 13.92; 2. ...

Men's Singles

Men: Singles (N. Ire) 21-14; K. ... Pairs: Northern Ireland (F. Elliott and M. ...)

Men's Doubles

Men: Singles (N. Ire) 21-14; K. ... Pairs: Northern Ireland (F. Elliott and M. ...)

Men's Singles

Men: Singles (N. Ire) 21-14; K. ... Pairs: Northern Ireland (F. Elliott and M. ...)

Advertisement for 'Change in the constitution' and 'On the brink' with various headlines and text.

